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LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY

SCIENCE ENGINEERING RESEARCH GROUP

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20 October 1972

National Aeronautics & Space Administration Goddard Space Flight Center Greenbelt, Maryland 20771

Gentlemen:

RE: Type I Progress Report for the Period Ending October 15, 1972

This document is submitted herewith in reference to NASA Contract No. NASS-21792 and includes the following:

- A) Title of the Investigation: "An Interdisciplinary Study of the Estuarine and Coastal Oceanography of Block Island Sound and Adjacent New York Coastal Waters" (070)
- B) GSFC Identification Number: UN 558 (Dr. Edward Yost)
- C) "First look" analysis of the imagery was performed using a multispectral viewer. The four images in the multispectral bands were projected onto the screen and viewed as a composite. The analysis revealed that for better contrast and detailed information it was necessary to reprocess the imagery. In the reporting period, only imagery received was for the two consecutive satellite passes over Long Island area. Moreover, all the frames could not be used due to the heavy cloud coverage over the area of interest.
- D) The ground truth experiments in the Block Island Sound and New York Bight area are also in progress. About ten cruises for the 1972 in the area of interest have been scheduled by the New York Ocean Science Laboratory. So far the major problem has been the weather. The scheduled September cruise into the New York Bight to coincide with the satellite overpass on the 21st and 22nd had to be aborted due to rough seas and high winds that made sampling impossible. A total of four cruises in the Block Island Sound were completed and three cruises have been rescheduled for completion in October. During the completed cruises, samples were collected in the water column for temperature, salinity, oxygen, nutrients, pigments, organics,

phytoplankton, and optical properties. These data are currently being reduced for further analysis.

The determination of particle size of particulate matter in the water column is progressing. Problems with the pick-up of external electrical noise in the Coulter Counter have been resolved by building an isolation chamber to house the instrument. Approximately 20 percent of the sampling effort in the field has been undertaken to date, with approximately 20 percent of the laboratory effort completed.

- E) The problem in obtaining the in situ upwelling radiance and downwelling irradiance measurements has been the instability of the measuring instruments with the rocking of the research vessel even on a fairly calm sea. An effort is being made to mount the units in a way which would relatively stabilize the measuring units.
- F) Some interesting results are anticipated from the cruise on 10th of October that was carried out under clear skies following a period of stormy weather. This cruise also coincided with the satellite overpass on that date.
- G) In the next reporting period, six cruises for sampling the water masses in the area of interest are planned. The received imagery will be reprocessed and additive color analyses will be performed. The correlation of field observations with satellite imagery will also be performed.

Very truly yours,

Edward Yost

Professor and Director